5

What is claimed is:

1. A fuel injector comprising:

a first tubular member adapted to contain a hydraulic actuator, the first tubular member being provided with a keyway;

a second tubular member adapted to contain a metering nozzle, the second tubular member contiguously abutting the first tubular member, the second tubular being provided with a second key way, the first key way and the second key way being substantially aligned; and

a curvilinear member abutting the first and second tubular members, the curvilinear member having at least a portion adapted to be disposed in the first and second key ways.

- 2. The fuel injector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the portion is at least a first end and a second end of the curvilinear member.
- 3. The fuel injector as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the first end and the second end of the curvilinear member comprises a resilient member.
- 4. The fuel injector as claimed in claim 2, wherein the curvilinear member includes a circular band.
- 5. The fuel injector as claimed in claim 2, wherein the portion includes a first end and a second end of the curvilinear member.
- 6. The fuel injector as claimed in claim 5, wherein the curvilinear member includes a circular band.
- 7. A method of positioning elements within a fuel injector, the method comprising: providing a first tubular element with a first groove disposed thereon, a second tubular element with a second groove disposed thereon:

aligning the first groove with the second groove; and

preventing movement of the first groove relative to the second groove.

- 8. The method of positioning as claimed in claim 7, wherein the preventing includes inserting a portion of a curvilinear member into the first and second grooves.
- 9. The method of positioning as claimed in claim 7, wherein the curvilinear member comprises a resilient portion.
- 10. The method of positioning as claimed in claim 7, wherein the preventing movement includes inserting both ends of a curvilinear member into the first and second grooves.
- 11. The method of positioning as claimed in claim 9, wherein the preventing movement includes inserting a resilient member into the first and second grooves.